

**Athletics Ontario Officials Annual General Meeting**  
**Sunday, November 27th, 2017**  
**Toronto, Ontario**

**Attendees:**

**Executive:** Tim Slocombe – Vice-chair  
René Van Andel – Treasurer  
Ian Reid – Director of Availability  
Jacquie Downing – Director of Seminars and Upgrading  
Sherry Purdie – Director of Awards and Incentives  
Kathryn Dertinger – Secretary

**Regrets:** Peter Hocking – Chair

<b>Members:</b>	Gumarathas Balasubramanian	Janette Berneche	Andy Burgess
	John Caulfield	Michael Chapman	Sharon Clarke
	Wynn Downing	Alicia Ferdinand	Gary Freedman
	Ken Giles	John Gonos	Brian Keaveney
	Lynne Kozina	Doug Krall	Phil Martin
	Larry Mayhue	Susan Mayhue	Lynn McFerran
	Vinesh Midha	Ted Neptune	Sharon Powell
	Shari Read	Gerrie Robbertse	Alison Rumball
	Janet Slocombe	John Stevenson	Enrico Toscano
	Helen Vasilic	Rick Watkins	Stafford Whalen
	Liliana Whalen		

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Tim Slocombe, Vice-Chair. Tim introduced and welcomed special attendees Anthony Biggar and Randolph Fajardo from Athletics Ontario. He also thanked members from Ottawa and Windsor for making the trip to Toronto to attend.

Tim reported that he talked to Chair Peter Hocking yesterday - he is home now and resting – progressing well – looking forward to getting back – Tim & Jacquie have assured him that we will do what needs to be done.

Tim explained the new rule book is online – certain sections are highlighted in blue – with the rule and suggestions – in the referee section it explains how many judges are necessary to run a meet

**2. Voting procedures and attendance** – asked if all the attendees signed the sign in form that was at the back of the room. Tim stated that if an individual is not on the list then they would not be able to vote. You also need to be a paid-up member to vote (must have registered for 2017) – make sure you sign the attendance sheet.

### **3. Tim asked for any requests for additions to the agenda under new business**

Lisa – NACAC

Enrico – 3 documents from last year – discussion of new IAAF rules

Kathryn – new officials document

#### **4 – The minutes of the 2016 AGM were approved as circulated.**

#### **5 – Business arising from the minutes of 2016**

Helen – all mentoring reports for National Upgrading are now going to Jane Edstrom

- Are lap scoring forms and other forms now on the website as requested last year? (lap scoring and wind gauge forms have been added but not protest forms)
  - o Lisa responded that a new person is taking over the website so officials should let the office know if anything needs to be posted
- Page 6 of minutes refers to the development of a safety document and discussion around sharing this with all schools – has this been done? - unsure
- Lisa explained the other 3 documents (harassment, dispute resolution, & discipline) have all been implemented

Enrico – referring to discussion on page 2 – need to advocate for officials – he felt we were treated worse at Invictus than at PanAm games – has anything been done? A lengthy discussion followed as outlined below:

- o Lisa – Auditor General’s report sent to Peter - not sure if it was sent out; followed up with Molly on medallions – not given to local officials; – there are certificates available for officials from PanAm and ParaPanAm – let Lisa know if you want
  - o Anthony – there are some printed for PanAms
- o Lisa – we received mileage and hotel rooms – we were not going to get that and AC fought to get that for us for Invictus
- o Lynne Kozina mentioned there were shift gifts for volunteers – officials did not get that
  - o Lisa – TOs received more than the volunteers – they got next to nothing – we actually got more than what they did – Invictus did not have money to bring extra onsite catering – Lisa talked to caterer and tried to get other food for us other than boxed lunches
- o Tim – 2 groups of people at PanAms and Invictus – volunteers came and did what they were asked – ITOs came with knowledge and abilities – management of PanAms didn’t see officials as different from volunteers – we came with expectations of meals, accommodation, and mileage – none of other volunteers got that
- o Vinesh – should we not be guiding the organizing committee as to how we should be treated? We should put something in place.
- o Tim – management perhaps didn’t feel they should talk to the officials ahead of time; Lisa should be congratulated for an excellent job coming late to the game – it wasn’t perfect but that wasn’t her fault
- o Ian – nationals organized by dedicated sport body itself – however multisport games – overall management is general – not sport specific – how we as a body will communicate with future multisport bodies is not clear
  - o Lisa – we have no control over budget for multisport games – Lisa took over 1 week before games – nothing was provided – Lisa advocated for us – each sport is treated differently – only way to advocate is to have a sport specific coordinator early on to communicate the sport body

- Lynne K asked if there is a way we can we influence?
  - Lisa – we were not at the table for organizing – sport coordinators did not know what we need. She suggests that as an officials committee in future we get on board early – at PanAms Nicole and Molly were track people and still had difficulty
- Larry – for example Special Olympics – didn't understand that track ITOs don't get paid like say basketball officials – earlier we can get into planning session the better
- John S – isn't is the Provincial Sport Org. the one that should be getting involved early – like AO
  - Anthony – explained he personally reached out to NAIG and got zero reply – communication with these organizations is difficult
- Tim – bottom line is that we need to be seen as specialists not volunteers

Enrico – page 6 re: safety policy introduced by Roman. He asked for comments from officials and had few responses – Roman sent it to AO for approval – has it gone any further?

- Lisa – documents forwarded to risk management committee – it has been a long year for them – they are reviewing all documents and will bring to the board for approval

No other comments arising from the minutes from last year.

## 6 – REPORTS

Reports were sent out by email in advance. Tim asked if there were any issues arising from the reports.

**Chair report – Peter Hocking** - Peter sends hello and Thank you wishes - **no comments**

**Vice Chair – Tim Slocombe** - **no comments**

**Seminars & upgrading – Jacquie Downing** - Tim said we owe Jacquie a huge debt – standing ovation - Tim thanked her for her years of service. Jacquie will be stepping down this year.

Jacquie –

- a) Comprehensive clinics – challenges in follow-ups to clinics – moderately successful in getting people into Level 1 – going forward a challenge to keep these new people involved
- b) Ottawa clinic – first time we were able to have Quebec (Daniel Michaud) involved
- c) 2 clinics at end of the meeting today
- d) Mentors and clinicians are volunteers – no honorarium – takes preparation ahead of time – 38 mentorships this year – (Rob Paterson to level 1 to add) – congratulations new Level 4 and 5s as we got word before the AGM
- e) Website – please look and if you want things added and talk to an executive member
- f) Wanted to thank everyone for support – Anthony is her go to guy in the office – the athletics community is amazing and thanks for the support – will support whoever is elected anyway she can

Questions?

Enrico – Asked why the same clinicians are always used for comprehensive clinics?

- Jacquie – helps with consistency – same info each time

John S – Winnipeg – were officials mentorship clinic results sent?

- Jacquie – we have to wait for NOC to add that

### **Director of Availability report – Ian Reid**

Ian reminded people to make sure that they respond with availability promptly, even if it is a no, and reconfirm with race director. Availability does not mean you have been assigned.

Helen – the number of officials for Windsor Jr/Sr last summer was 53 confirmed not 26.

### **Director of Awards – Sherry Purdie**

Sherry explained that what she does is based on years of service. She has emailed people to confirm. The awards are based on registration on website so everyone needs to make sure they have registered to 2016 citizenship pins done in December.

Peter gave her a bag of AC pins in Ottawa – NOC is downloading that to AO – starting from 2014 – have pins for 2015 – 2017 – NOC and province now the same – there are three 30 year pins to give out but don't have them at the moment – any questions about pins and years of service – call Sherry or email – you will get NOC pins at championships or AGM – provincial pins she will try to get it delivered to meet close to you – any questions?

- Tim – commented he has been involved with citizenship pins – noted that Sherry created regions for officials as the citizenships pins – they only allow 6 per year so thanks to Sherry we now we can give out 36 pins as she created 6 regions.

### **Report of Treasurer – Rene Van Andel**

Rene answered questions about the report.

John – was conference call amount same both years? – Rene replied it just happened to match John - \$2000 allotted for appreciation program but nothing spent on it? 2017-2018 budget is \$7200 – why is this 3x if we didn't spend it?

- Tim – need to ask for it
- Rene – legacy from AO
- Lisa – everyone will be receiving something from AO – just hasn't come through yet – rule books only ordered every 2 years – doesn't show up every year

Enrico – wondered about the amount allotted for minor meets

- Rene – AO sets aside certain amount of money for AO meets – *minor* meets eg Art Keay race walks, 10km champs – 'minor track' is different – will make a change in wording to clarify

**Secretary – Kathryn Dertinger** - The Secretary does not present a report.

Motion to accept reports – John Stevenson/Brian Keaveney – passed

Note: All AGM 2017 Executive Reports are posted on the AO web site with these Minutes.

## 7 – ELECTIONS

Tim explained there are 3 positions up for election – CHAIR, DIRECTOR OF SEMINARS & UPGRADING, DIRECTOR OF AWARDS & INCENTIVES. One nomination was received in advance for each of the three positions – Peter Hocking for Chair, Phil Martin for Seminars, and Sherry Purdie for Awards.

**Chair** – Tim said that he had spoken with Peter Hocking and Peter had accepted the nomination. Tim asked if there were any other nominations? None – John Stevenson moved nominations be closed/seconded by Brian Keaveney

\*\*Enrico suggested that in future that if a member is not here and wants to be nominated for a position that there be something in writing from the member

**Director of Seminars** – Jacquie Downing had nominated Phil Martin – he had accepted – Tim asked if there were any other nominations. Vinesh Midha nominated Enrico Toscano - Enrico accepted. Brian Keaveney moved to close nominations and John Caulfield seconded.

Tim asked for scrutineers. Gary Freeman and Lynne Kozina will count ballots – everyone who is a member gets to vote

- Ballots were distributed – Lynne collected ballots – Gary & Lynne will count ballots – should be 37 according to the attendance.

\*There was a break in the proceedings for ballot counting

Results – as per bylaws only name announced not results

Tim welcomed Phil Martin as the new Director of Seminars & Upgrading

John Stevenson /Enrico Toscano – moved and seconded that ballots be destroyed

**Awards & incentives** – Helen Vasilic had nominated Sherry Purdie. Tim asked if there were any nominations from the floor. Lily Whalen / John Stevenson – motion for nominations to be closed

Tim declared that Peter Hocking, Phil Martin and Sherry Purdie are members of the AOO Executive.

## 8. NEW BUSINESS

a) **SAFETY DOCUMENT** - There was a further discussion about the proposed safety document.

Enrico Toscano– asked about the safety document – we are waiting for these documents – ask AO to speed up this process so we have it in place for next season – Lisa said she would pass it on

Helen Vasilic– we don't differentiate between field and track officials – field officials crossing the track and falling on the track – who is responsible?

- Anthony – meet director responsible she is attended to immediately – AO has accident insurance and officials are covered under this policy
- Enrico described an event years ago at York meet where an official missed a step off track – had to go to hospital was there for 1 week – AO insurance covered him

Helen asked if we have a safety officer yet?

- Lisa – no we don't – we had issues at Nationals with combined events warm-ups – needs to go to the competition committee as it is a management issue – Lisa will talk with Brian K about what Masters have in place

Anthony Biggar explained there was a safety document provided last year indoor to AO championships he was responsible for – it was emailed to officials.

Brian Keaveney – is there an incident report as part of the safety package?

- Lisa – it needs to go into the PoPs as part of meet emergency action plan

Ken Giles – coaches and spectators need to be aware as well – safety rules allowed for them to get a new throwing cage in Windsor – once it is ratified at AO level needs to make its way down

Tim – need to start at minor track level – coaches need to be more aware – safety officers' job has to be well defined

## **b) OFFICIALS WELCOME PACKAGE**

Kathryn Dertinger introduced a new document she is working on to give to new AO officials. The booklet will combine several documents that Jacquie has been providing to new officials with other relevant information that would be useful to new officials. The UK has several great documents online that have been used as a guideline.

- Sharon – can we have a buddy system? We should know what they are interested – give new officials an idea of who their buddy is at the meet – who are they to report to so they know where to go? Having someone there to say what to expect –
- Tim – need to let officials know you are there to help
- Sharon – being a new official – confusing when you get to track and don't know what to do and what you need to bring – eg equipment - where do you get stuff like field markers etc.

Jacquie explained we need to put onus on us as official to reach out; new people don't need equipment – is person there as official or volunteer? – volunteer list we don't get – part of purpose of level 1 report there needs to be a supervising official for track and for field – gives that official instruction

- Larry Mayhue suggested it could be introduced at comprehensive clinic – first meets are regional – set up relationships – let new officials know who they can contact with questions?
  - Tim – person who organized clinic can follow up – depends on who is organizing – event specific – Phil did have good retention from clinic in Guelph
- Ian – any event chief should have responsibility for making sure new person is involved either themselves or delegate to team member
- Tim – should it formally be the responsibility of the Referee?
- Sharon P. – several occasions had a volunteer come – pulls out an AO card to sign – volunteers show up after –
  - Tim/Ian – need to get Referee to sign – lets encourage new people by getting them their credits
  - Rene – must have been given a card and talked to someone – can't print it off website

### c) NATIONALS IN OTTAWA 2018 - RICK WATKINS

Rick Watkins explained he was asked last summer after nationals to coordinate officials for next year. He had meetings over the summer regarding all aspects - internal meeting – AC meeting etc. Next Wed. is the first meeting with AC regarding next year's meet to fix problems

Tim Slocombe offered to help out

Lisa – asked if he is the officials coordinator? How does that work with AO

- Rick – liaison for officials locally

John Stevenson – asked what is his reaction from last summer – has the message been heard about how officials were handled last year

- Rick – feedback to improve; he thinks the message has been heard

Vinesh Midha - discussed the situation where he left the meet early 2 years ago; last year was sent an email saying not wanted in Ottawa – later asked to come for AO meet but not the Nationals – he was confused at what to do.

- Ian explained to clarify – he can tell meet organizers they do not have a say in who is selected – it must officially go through Ian in writing – Ian will assign people based on who is available for AO meets – for AC Nationals – it will be up to AC and will have to go through Rick for this year
- Tim suggested we need to listen to understand not to reply and solve problems by reacting or asking how to work things out. If there are issues talk to executive and not respond directly. We also need to admit our part in confrontations.
- Helen – don't forget we are doing this for the athletes

### d) NACAC – LISA FERDINAND

Date is August 10 – 12<sup>th</sup>, 2018 at Varsity Stadium, Toronto

Ian is the officials' coordinator for NACAC

- Lily – received an email from US officials that participated in NACAC\Masters wanting to know if they will be able to officiate
  - Lisa – ITOs will be done by NACAC; other officials will be done as usual through Ontario and other provinces as needed; don't need any American officials

Ian – this will be a major qualifier for both USA and Canada – a very high level – top athletes coming – all senior – do not know how many athletes we are expecting at this moment; 2 sessions Friday – Sat afternoon on CBC and Sunday on CBC

There will be a coaching conference. Lisa suggested an officials conference too - if there is something you are keen on knowing technically – we can invite other experts – pass suggestions on to Lisa

### e) USPORT – HELEN VASILIC

Windsor is hosting **USport** (March 8 – 10) and **OAs** (Feb. 23/24). She explained they have both because they are going to have an expansion and will be unable to host for next 2-3 years

Helen indicated has been told that USport wants no mentorships as they did not want it interfering with the meet – Helen will work to convince organizers that this is necessary; meeting with them tomorrow. Jacque questioned whether they need to know about the mentorships as this is how we

must have officials upgrade. Helen said that USport will question the expense of bringing in outside officials.

For OUs there will be mentorships as necessary. OUs – if you need provincial credits let Phil know – Helen will try to get people in after all Windsor officials assigned

#### **f) New IAAF Rule Book – Enrico Toscano**

Enrico asked if everyone was aware of the new rules especially for field – eg. Changed time to start performance from 1 minute to 30 seconds – WHEN DO WE APPLY THIS RULE? Right away? AO should send a letter to all associations telling them this will be in place

- Tim – rules for 2018 – Vertical: high jump is 30s and pole vault is 1 min and other field events now 30 seconds: also if only 1 left or going for record – increase by 1 minute

Ian Reid reminded that OUs, USport, & OFSAA follow IAAF except for some rules – they have their own

Lisa Ferdinand explained that if AO sanctions an event the organizers need to abide by new IAAF rules

Wynn Downing stated that at the last meet he officiated at both the athletes and meet director were not aware of new rule – but he put it into place – educated the athletes in his instructions.

Sharon – asked about flag up instruction and if that changes

- Tim – rule says when 15 seconds remain

Anthony – when is this in place?

Tim – The new rules went into effect on November 1, 2017.

## **9 - DATE FOR NEXT AGM**

Tentatively - Saturday, November 17<sup>th</sup> 2018

## **10 – AWARDS**

Helen Vasilic congratulated **Ken Giles** from Windsor as Ontario Official of the Year. Ken received his award at the AO Awards Banquet in September.

Tim Slocombe congratulated Helen Vasilic on her appointment to the National Officials' Committee.

## **11. Adjournment – John Gonos / Stafford Whalen**

A lunch was provided and two National Clinics (Starter and Throws) followed.

***Minutes prepared by Kathryn Dertinger***